

## ABSTRACT

A program guide information data structure and processing system facilitates both decoding and selectable program guide generation by a decoder.

- 5 A decoder acquires a directory of object files associated with program guide information items and a map for associating the object files (e.g. representing channel, program or control information or software) with the program guide information items. The decoder creates an image object from an object file and links the image object to a program guide information item. The decoder
- 10 executes an application software object to form a special program guide for display and executes another application software object to command a device in processing a program listed in a program guide.